

**NAUGATUCK CULTURAL COUNCIL
CULTURAL ACTIVITIES & AWARENESS COMMITTEE**

Minutes

Meeting of September 26, 2013

Naugatuck Town Hall, Commissioners Corner, 229 Church Street, Naugatuck

Attendees: Syed Zahid Arshad, Sarabeel Binzahid, Robin Gerber, Sandra Heller, Shaista Shakeel, Vanessa Vowe, Les Williams, Aaron Williams, Maya Williams, Shagufta Zahid

Meeting was called to order by Robin Gerber at 6:08 p.m.

Vanessa Vowe volunteered to take the minutes.

Unanimous approval of Motion to Approve Minutes of September 16, 2013 Meeting—Motion by Sandra Heller/Second (2nd) by Shagufta Zahid.

Planning for Eid-Al-Adha

Publicity: Shagufta distributed flyers for the event; she made 250 black and white copies and a few color copies to post. She has begun distributing throughout the community, such as Naugatuck Savings & Loan, the library, the fire marshall's office, grocery stores, Muslim United Mosque, and posted information on The Patch for Naugatuck and the Valley, and more. Robin will distribute at Naugatuck Valley Community College, New Morning, and a harvest festival in Woodbury. Committee members are encouraged to distribute flyers in the community.

Shagufta will meet with the Health Department representative tomorrow on The Green. Temporary permits for a one-day event are necessary, \$52.

The fire marshall said that propane can be used on The Green, but he has to sign off on the Health Department permit. This can be done during set up on Friday or Saturday. It was suggested to invite the fire marshall as a guest to the event.

Other logistics:

- The DJ will cost \$450.
- Bengara dancers: not sure if they are available to participate and if they will require a fee.
- Vendors are being charged \$30 for a booth.
- Tables: Jim Goggins has secured 12 tables from the Senior Center. Robin can offer one 6-foot table. Vanessa will check with the library.
- Tents: we have 3 tents; Sandra will inquire about others. Robin will ask the Arts Commission about where they secured tents and tables for the Arts & Cultural Festival.
- Seating: Les contacted Kim at Park and Recreation and has forwarded the application to Shagufta, who will complete it and email it back to Park and Rec. There are no chairs available; bleachers are possible but could not accommodate 200 people.
- Shagufta and Sandra will be meeting with the Mayor Monday at 3:45 p.m. to get his involvement; request made for Port-a-lets and podium. Otherwise, Port-a-lets cost \$65. Also, we need to find out what to do with monies received for this event. Sandra also contacted Bridget Mariano at the Historical Society about their being an umbrella to receive funds on our behalf; they had offered to do that for us in the past. Waiting to hear back. As a result, Shagufta will hold off accepting checks until we know how to handle this.
- Shagufta is organizing women from the community to help with this event. Working on outreach to Yale professor, students (transportation needed for students), and Muslim chaplain.

- Seeking financial support for the event from Naugatuck Savings & Loan, Walmart, and others. There was discussion on whether or not we should accept a donation from Walmart since they have a track record of unethical practices, particularly in exploiting people in developing countries as well as other practices. After discussing, there was a consensus that a donation should not be accepted from Walmart. Other possible donors suggested are Terri's Flower Shop, The Milestone Inn, Unique Gift Shop and Garden Center, and Ayash Man.
- Set up will be Saturday morning; besides committee members, there should be enough people participating to help with set up.
- Bounce House would cost \$200; Robin asked if there might be alternative activities for the children in place of a Bounce House.
- Magic show would cost \$150 for 45 minutes to 1 hour.
- There is a Libyan family who can share special instruments.
- Will need to confirm performers and Bounce House between October 5 and 8.
- Invitations to guests must be sent.

Logo

Sandra said that the high school principal, Jan Saam, connected her with the arts and graphic arts teachers to have their students help us with developing a logo. She suggested our talking with the classes; one is at 7:45 a.m. and the other at 1:30 p.m. Sandra and Robin will make a presentation to the 7:45 a.m. class on Wednesday, October 2. Les will check his schedule to see if he can cover the afternoon class. It was suggested that we have criteria for selecting the logo. Several logo submissions were created at the Arts & Cultural Festival and will need to be considered also.

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 10, at 6 p.m. Vanessa will request a meeting room.

Unanimous approval of Motion to Adjourn the Meeting at 7:32 p.m.—Motion by Sandra Heller/Second (2nd) by Robin Gerber.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Vowe